

San Diego Pays Tribute to the Military

PRESS RELEASE FROM FLEET WEEK SAN DIEGO

SAN DIEGO, April 24, 2008 - The 2008 Fleet Week San Diego events are approaching quickly. They begin early this year - kicking off on Saturday, May 3rd with the Sea & Air Parade. Each year, the San Diego community is given several opportunities to pay homage to the men and women who defend our country. With the events starting earlier, this year promises to be bigger and better than ever!

The Sea & Air Parade

Saturday, May 3rd, 2008 - San Diego Bay

With six warships and about fourteen aircraft, the parade is expected to draw more than 100,000 spectators. The tentative list of participating ships includes an Aircraft Carrier, Cruiser, Guided Missile Destroyer, Destroyer, Frigate, Nuclear Submarine, Amphibious Assault Ship, Amphibious Dock and Platform Landing Ships, SEAL Support Boat and other small craft. This year there is also the addition of three tall warships - The Californian, the HMS Surprise and the Privateer Lynx.

The Event Is FREE

There is ample opportunity to view the Sea & Air Parade. Spectators on Shelter Island will have views of the ships first, since the ships will deploy from Point Loma through the bay. But Harbor Island may be the ideal spot for the best viewing opportunity. Event goers can also see the action from parts of Coronado, including SDG&E Park and Centennial Park.

The Coronado Speed Festival

September 27th & 28th, 2008 – Naval Air Station North Island

Set against the stunning backdrop of San Diego Bay, the Coronado Speed Festival will feature 225 of the world's most unique and pedigreed machines at one of the most distinctive racecar locations - Naval Air Station North Island, the birthplace of Naval Aviation. In addition to the vintage racecars, chosen to compete on the basis of their historical significance and certified authenticity, you will be able to see top race cars from today including NASCAR, hot rod, Trans AM and many more.

In the past years, over 20,000 fans have packed the grandstands to view a spectator-friendly 1.6-mile course that is constructed in a matter of days on the runways and taxiways of this military base. The fans not only watch eight different race groups zoom around the track, but are able to step back in time to enjoy auto racing's rich history with tours of the racecar pits and are able to speak with the drivers of these unique machines. And best of all, active duty military and their dependents get into this unique event for FREE!

Operation Liberty Call

Friday, October 3rd, 2008 4-9pm – Historic Gaslamp Quarter

Participating businesses in Liberty Station will show their military appreciation by offering special discounts to military members and their families who have purchased the event coupon book. The coupon book can be purchased for \$5 and offers more than \$1,000 in discounts. The first 500 participants who visit event headquarters the night of the event will receive an official Operation Liberty Call T-shirt. Participants can also visit event headquarters to enter the drawing for some great prizes.

Football Game

Date TBD – Qualcomm Stadium

San Diego State University will be playing in this fourth annual Fleet Week Football Classic. Pregame and half-time shows will feature flyovers, parachutists, the Navy Region South West

and SDSU bands. There will also be a special tribute to our wounded warriors at Balboa Hospital and Camp Pendleton as well as a tribute to members of the Legion of Valor. And, the first 10,000 active duty military are free.

Fleet Week Padres Baseball Game

Monday, August 25th, 2008 7:05pm – Petco Park

The San Diego Padres, "Team of the Military," are proud to be a part of Fleet Week San Diego 2008. The Padres will take on the Arizona Diamondbacks and the game will honor the San Diego military community in the same tradition that has been so well established by Fleet Week over the years.

SDG&E All Enlisted Golf Tournament

Tuesday, October 7th, 2008 – Admiral Baker Golf Course

The fifth annual SDG&E All Enlisted Golf Tournament is solely for Enlisted Men and Women of the U.S. Navy, the U.S. Coast Guard and the U.S. Marine Corps. This exciting event features a tournament within a tournament. Six Sea Service Teams (2 foursomes consisting of top players from each of the three sea services) compete head to head for the right to display the annual Fleet Week Inter-Service Trophy. The tournament is conducted on the Navy's Admiral Baker North and South Courses and concludes in the evening with an Awards Dinner for all participants, sponsors and volunteers.

Veterans Home of California BBQ Lunch

Saturday, October 18th, 2008 11-2pm – Chula Vista

The City of Chula Vista and the Veterans Home of California will be hosting a barbecue lunch complete with live musical entertainment. Invited guests include veteran residents and their families, as well as prominent veterans advocates.

Bands & Booms

Sunday, July 6th, 2008 6-9pm – Embarcadero Marina Park South

Sponsored by the Port of San Diego, and produced by the San Diego Symphony, this Annual Fourth of July celebration features patriotic music and spectacular fireworks. The San Diego Symphony has generously given 250 tickets for each performance to active duty military families. The tickets may be obtained by contacting the on-base MWR or MCCA Ticket Offices.

The Miramar Air Show

October 3-5, 2008 – MCAS Miramar

The world's best military and civilian pilots will soar through San Diego's skies at the world famous MCAS Miramar Air Show, featuring the Navy's Blue Angels, the Marine Corps AV-8B Harrier, Air Force F-16 and the Navy's F-18 E/F Super Hornet! This three day event has proven to be a tremendous success in the past, winning numerous awards from the International Council of Air Shows (ICAS), and this year promises to be even better. Attracting crowds of hundreds of thousands of spectators, the air show displays numerous types of aircraft, from old biplanes to the newest technology of stealth fighter jets, along with the Marine Air and Ground Task Force (MAGTF) simulated combat demonstration. There will also be over 200 hands-on static display exhibits where the general public can see civilian and military aviation technology up close. The air show also provides a special Twilight Show featuring the Great Wall of Fire and a Fireworks Grand Finale. The MCAS Miramar Air Show is free to the general public. Take advantage of this opportunity to see the military's finest pilots!

The Boot Camp Challenge

Saturday, October 4th, 2008 – MCRD San Diego

Come and join us for the Seventh Annual Running of the Boot Camp Challenge - a three-mile run through the historic grounds of the Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, where Marines are made. The course takes you across the drill fields and through the famous obstacle course used to test the mettle of young men from all over America who have come here to see if they have what it takes to be one of the few and the proud. Don't miss this unique opportunity to be a Marine Corps Recruit for a day!

Fleet Week San Diego is a nonprofit, public benefit corporation. In addition to honoring the military services through the annual Fleet Week events, the foundation's goals are to foster awareness of the contributions made by enlisted military personnel and their families, to enhance relationships between the civilian, business and military communities, to provide events that Military personnel and their families can attend at little or no cost, and to raise funds for charitable efforts benefiting enlisted service members and their families. Benefiting organizations include the USO, Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society and the Armed Services YMCA. For more information, or for a complete listing of all of the Fleet Week events, please visit www.fleetweeksandiego.org.

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